

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: DEPUTY MINISTER SEMENOV'S STATEMENT OF JUNE 24, 1977SALT TWO
-1250)

THE FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY DEPUTY MINISTER
SEMENOV AT THE SALT TWO MEETING OF JUNE 24, 1977

SEMENOV STATEMENT, JUNE 24, 1977

A CONSIDERATION WAS EXPRESSED IN THE U.S. DELEGATION'S
STATEMENT AT THE JUNE 17, 1977 MEETING, TO THE EFFECT THAT,
IN ADDITION TO THE RELEVANT ALREADY AGREED PROVISIONS OF THE
DRAFT, NUMERICAL VALUES BE RECORDED FOR THE MAXIMUM LEVELS
FOR THE LAUNCH-WEIGHT AND THROW-WEIGHT OF LIGHT AND HEAVY
ICBMS.

THE CONSIDERATIONS PRESENTED BY THE U.S. DELEGATION HAVE
BEEN CAREFULLY STUDIED. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE USSR DELEGA-
TION HAS THE FOLLOWING TO STATE.

AS YOU KNOW, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE VLADIVOSTOK UNDER-
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STANDING, THE SIDES HAVE AGREED ON THE OBLIGATION CONTAINED
IN ARTICLE IV, PAR. 3, NOT TO CONVERT LAUNCHERS FOR LIGHT
ICBMS OR FOR ICBMS OF OLDER TYPES DEPLOYED PRIOR TO 1964
INTO LAUNCHERS FOR HEAVY ICBMS OF TYPES DEPLOYED AFTER THAT
TIME.

MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING IN PRINCIPLE HAS BEEN REACHED TO

THE EFFECT THAT THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN LIGHT AND HEAVY ICBMS WOULD BE MADE ON THE BASIS OF BOTH THE LAUNCH-WEIGHT AND THE THROW-WEIGHT OF MISSILES. THIS IS REFLECTED IN THE AGREED SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE II, PAR. 6--THE DEFINITION OF HEAVY ICBMS. AGREEMENT HAS ALSO BEEN REACHED ON ARTICLE IV, PAR. 7, REGARDING THE OBLIGATION OF THE SIDES NOT TO DEVELOP, TEST OR DEPLOY ICBMS WHICH HAVE A LAUNCH-WEIGHT GREATER OR A THROW-WEIGHT GREATER THAN THAT OF THE HEAVIEST, IN TERMS OF EITHER LAUNCH-WEIGHT OR THROW-WEIGHT, RESPECTIVELY, OF THE HEAVY ICBMS DEPLOYED BY EITHER SIDE AS OF THE DATE OF SIGNATURE OF THE AGREEMENT.

IN CONNECTION WITH ARTICLE II, PAR. 6, AND ARTICLE IV, PAR. 7, AN AGREED STATEMENT AND COMMON UNDERSTANDING HAVE ALSO BEEN WORKED OUT REGARDING THE DEFINITION OF THE LAUNCH-WEIGHT AND THROW-WEIGHT OF ICBMS.

AGREEMENT ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT, WHICH CONCERN LIMITATIONS ON THE LAUNCH-WEIGHT AND THROW-WEIGHT OF ICBMS, WAS THE RESULT OF EXTENSIVE AND PAINSTAKING WORK BY THE SIDES, IN THE COURSE OF WHICH EVERYTHING NECESSARY FOR A CLEAR AND IDENTICAL UNDERSTANDING BY THE SIDES OF THE RELEVANT QUESTIONS WAS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. OF COURSE, THESE PROVISIONS WERE WORKED OUT ON THE BASIS THAT VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OBLIGATIONS BEING ESTABLISHED WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE XVI

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OF THE DRAFT.

IN THEIR WORK, THE SIDES IN FACT PROCEEDED FROM THE VERY SAME PREMISES AS TO WHICH LIGHT AND HEAVY ICBMS WOULD HAVE THE GREATEST LAUNCH-WEIGHT AND THROW-WEIGHT, RESPECTIVELY, IN THE CONTEXT OF THE AGREEMENT BEING WORKED OUT. INDEED, THE AGREED FORMULATIONS OF THE DRAFT, REFERRED TO HERE, EMBODY THIS MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING WHICH IN ESSENCE EXISTS BETWEEN US. THESE FORMULATIONS ARE NOT AN ABSTRACTION--THEY REFLECT THE ACTUALLY EXISTING TRUE-TO-LIFE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO WHICH THE NEW AGREEMENT IS BEING WORKED OUT.

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE ABOVE, THE USSR DELEGATION HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO STATE THAT THERE IS NO NEED TO WORK OUT NUMERICAL VALUES FOR THE MAXIMUM PERMITTED LAUNCH-WEIGHT AND THROW-WEIGHT OF ICBMS, SINCE THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE SIDES WITH RESPECT TO LIMITING THESE WEIGHTS ARE SPECIFIED IN A CLEAR-CUT MANNER BY THE AGREED PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT.

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